

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Responsive to the restriction requirement Applicants' attorney confirms the election to prosecute claims 1 through 16.

The Examiner has rejected the claims as anticipated under 35 USC 102(b) by the teaching of the reference to Goto et al '615.

Goto et al is noted as teaching a pivoted flapper-type valve for a fuel tank filler tube. However, the reference to FIGS. 5, 7 and 9 of the Goto et al patent, it is noted that the upstream surface of the flapper has a recess formed therein which would serve as a trap for the end of a siphon hose inserted into the filler tube. Therefore, the Goto et al patent is not concerned with the problem addressed by Applicants' invention, namely, that it is necessary to divert the end of a siphon hose away from the flapper seal.

Applicants' claim 1, the sole base claim subject to Examination has been amended herein to recite the feature wherein the valve member or flapper has surfaces thereon operable upon insertion of a siphon hose to deflect the hose away from the flexible annular seal.

Claim 16 has been amended to recite the preferred form wherein the deflecting surfaces include an upwardly extending rib.

New claim 23 recites the feature of the rib as providing a camming action with respect to the end of the siphon hose upon insertion therein.

In view of the amendments made herein and for the reasons set forth above, it is submitted that the amended claims now recite the invention in a form which patentably distinguishes over the cited references. Accordingly, it is requested that the Examiner's rejections be withdrawn and the amended claims allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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